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EXAMINER
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PAULA, CESAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

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37

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/481,069

**Applicant(s)**

BAKMAN ET AL.

**Examiner**

CESAR B PAULA

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2004.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-113 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30, 32-41, 43, 45-76, 78-82, 84-86 and 88-113 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 31, 42, 44, 77, 83 and 87 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 31, 34.  
4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/27/04.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to the response to restriction requirement filed on 1/9/2004.

**This action is made Non-Final.**

2. In the response, claims 1-113 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, 18, 36, 39, 43, 49, 55, 59, 67, 78, 80, 86, 91, 94, and 95 are independent claims.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statement (IDSs) submitted on 6/4, and 9/11/2003 have been considered by the examiner except for the Canadian office actions, which are non-publishable confidential documents.

### ***Drawings***

4. The proposed drawing corrections filed on 2/16/2000 have been approved by the Examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 79 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 79 recites the limitation "said first computer" in lines 2-3. There is

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insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. There is no “first computer” in claim 78, which is the base claim of this claim.

7. Claims 10, and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in, such as “Lotus Notes”, “Novel Groupwise”, etc. (lines 2-6), has been noted in the claims.

8. Claims 15, 46, and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in claims, such as “SAP enterprise management system”, etc. (lines 1-2), has been noted in the claims.

9. Claims 12, 16, 47, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in claims, such as “Microsoft Exchange messaging system” (lines 1-2), has been noted in the claims.

10. Claims 14, and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in claims, such as “Microsoft Exchange”, “Lotus Notes”, “Novel Groupwise”, etc. (lines 2-7), has been noted in the claims.

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11. Claims 32, 48, 60, 65, 85, and 90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in claims, such as "Postscript", "Latex", "PCL", "Microsoft Word", etc. (line 3), has been noted in the claims.

12. Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The use of the trademarks in claims, such as "Java", etc. (line 2), has been noted in the claim.

The trademarks above are used as a limitation to identify a software application.

Therefore, the claims do not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, *Ex parte Simpson*, 218 USPQ 1020 (Bd. App. 1982).

The claims' scopes are uncertain since the trademarks cannot be used properly to identify any particular material or product, such as the version of the software application being referred to by the trademarks.

In fact, the value of a trademark would be lost to the extent that it became descriptive of a product, rather than used as an identification of a source or origin of a product. Thus, the use of a trademark in a claim to identify or describe a material or a product would not only render a claim indefinite, but would also constitute an improper use of the trademark.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

13. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

14. Claims 1-2, 8-9, 18-23, 36, 96, and 99-100 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stern (Pat. # 6,507,855, 1/14/2003, filed on 6/25/1998).

Regarding independent claim 1, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of software code documentation, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters--* and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration parameters--* from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameter and a value associated with said parameter*, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters--* and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration parameters--* in a meaningful manner. The documentation having a

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meaningful format, such as that of *narrative* text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”, in HTML or RTF format (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Stern discloses the automatic organizing of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions—*automatically selecting said explanatory information for said configurable system* (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding independent claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of a software code documentation computer output file, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters--* and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration parameters--* from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.7, lines 40-67, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameters having values associated therewith*, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the extracted software documentation using several invocation flags, such as “-t” flag, which just prints out the names of templates

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(documentation sections) in the code —*table of contents*-- (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 47-67, col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67, fig.5).

Regarding claim 9, which depends on claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic organizing of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a software product, such as word processing, and database applications—*configurable software application* (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding independent claim 18, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of a software code documentation computer output file, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters*-- and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration values*-- from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.7, lines 40-67, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameters having values associated therewith*, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the software documentation into a binary tree—*index of at least selected parameters of said configuration parameters, and said explanatory information*--, which indicates an internal representation of the order of the templates (which template is first, second, and so on) which are document sections containing



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tags or fields, and text objects remarks describing programming elements such as pointers along with their configuration parameters, such as “NULL”. The binary tree shows a relative order or location of the templates, fields, and remarks--*said index detailing relative location of at least one of said selected parameters and at least a portion of said explanatory information within said document* (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 47-67, col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67, fig.5).

Regarding claim 19, which depends on claim 1, Stern discloses the enforcement of policy rules with certain requirements—*range of acceptable values*—for tags for documenting the code and its functions, parameters, etc.,. If the programmer fails to follow such rules, then an error message is output— *comparing said retrieved configuration parameters against said set of rules*— (col.6, lines 1-20, col. 11, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 20, which depends on claim 19, Stern discloses the enforcement of policy rules with certain requirements—*range of acceptable values*—for tags for documenting the code and its functions, parameters, etc.,. If the programmer fails to follow such rules, then an error message is output— *....outputting an indication of error conditions if at least one of said configuration parameters violates one or more rule*— (col.6, lines 1-20, col. 11, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 21, which depends on claim 19, Stern discloses the enforcement of policy rules with certain requirements, such as specifications “void \*inarg”, and “ulong\_t func”, etc., —*range of acceptable values*—for tags for documenting the code and its functions,

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parameters, etc.,. If the programmer fails to follow such rules, then an error message is output—*outputting information conveying desired values*— (col.6, lines 1-20, col. 11, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 22, which depends on claim 21, Stern discloses that if the programmer fails to follow such rules, then an error message is output allowing the programmer to enter the required documentation -- *desired values are computably modifiable* (col.6, lines 1-20, col. 11, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 23, which depends on claim 1, Stern discloses the automatic retrieval of documentation using a computer-- *using a collector computer program that collects said configuration parameters....* (col. 2, lines 50-67, and col. 3, lines 41-67). Stern discloses in the previous quote, the retrieval of configuration parameters from a configurable system by a computer program.

Claim 36 is directed towards a method for implementing the system found in claim 1 (the computer in claim 6 also has communication capabilities, since it is retrieving information from a configurable system), and is similarly rejected.

Claim 96 is directed towards a computer program product on a computer-readable media for storing the system found in claim 36, and is similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 99, which depends on claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*explanatory information comprises text segments*-- HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding claim 100, which depends on claim 18, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*explanatory information comprises text segments*-- HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

16. Claims 10-12, 55-57, 60, 67, 94, 103, and 105 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern.

Regarding claim 10, which depends on claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic organization of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a

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software product, such as word processing, and database applications—*configurable software application* (col.1, lines 20-67, col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *said configurable system is selected from a group consisting of a Lotus Notes system.....an Oracle database management system*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have selected from a group of software applications above, because Stern teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 11, which depends on claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic organization of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a software product, such as word processing, and database applications (col.1, lines 20-67, col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *said configurable software system is a SAP enterprise management system*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have selected from a group of software applications above, because Stern teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67).

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Regarding claim 12, which depends on claim 8, Stern discloses the automatic organization of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a software product, such as word processing, and database applications (col.1, lines 20-67, col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *said configurable software system is a Microsoft Exchange messaging system*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have selected from a group of software applications above, because Stern teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique for generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67).

Regarding independent claim 55, Stern discloses the retrieval or transfer of data, such as computer program code-- *configurable system*-- from a database to a computer system "530". The database is shared among several computer systems (col.1, lines 19-61, col.12, lines 1-8, 10-22, 38-50, and fig.8). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an Intranet*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have coupled the computer to the configurable system over an Intranet, because Stern teaches the advantage of coupling computer 530 to a network, such as an Intranet, and Stern also teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique for generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines

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39-67). Thus, enabling the easy creation of meaningful documentation across networks, such as an Intranet.

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of a software code documentation computer output file, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters*-- and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration values*-- from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.7, lines 40-67, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Additionally, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system*, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the extracted software documentation using several invocation flags, such as “-t” flag, which just prints out the names of templates (documentation sections) in the code —*table of contents or portion thereof*-- (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 47-67, col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67, fig.5).

Regarding claim 56, which depends on claim 55, Stern discloses the automatic organization of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a software product, such as word processing, and database applications--*at least one configurable*

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*system selected from a group consisting of a configurable software application...a database management system* (col.1, lines 20-67, col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding claim 57, which depends on claim 55, Stern discloses the automatic organization of the extracted software documentation for computer code functions belonging to a software product, such as word processing, and database applications—*configurable software application* (col.1, lines 20-67, col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *said configurable system is at least one selected from a group consisting of a Lotus Notes system...an Oracle database management system*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have selected from a group of software applications above, because Stern teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 60, which depends on claim 55, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL” HTML or RTF format —*said documentation in at least one format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML....--* (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding independent claim 67, Stern discloses the retrieval or transfer of data, such as computer program codes-- *configurable systems*-- from a database to a computer system "530". The database is shared among several computer systems (col.1, lines 19-61, col.12, lines 1-8, 10-22, 38-50, and fig.8). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an Intranet*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have coupled the computer to the configurable system(s) over an Intranet, because Stern teaches the advantage of coupling computer 530 to a network, such as an Intranet, and Stern also teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique for generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67). Thus, enabling the easy creation of meaningful documentation across networks, such as an Intranet.

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of a software code documentation computer output file, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters*-- and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration values*-- from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.7, lines 40-67, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Additionally, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text "A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL"—*configuration parameters and a value associated with said*



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parameter, in a narrative format descriptive of the configurable system, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the software documentation into a binary tree—*generating an index of at least selected parameters of said configuration parameters, and said explanatory information--*, which indicates an internal representation of the order of the templates (which template is first, second, and so on) which are document sections containing tags or fields, and text objects remarks describing programming elements such as pointers along with their configuration parameters, such as “NULL”. The binary tree shows a relative order or location of the templates, fields, and remarks--*said index detailing relative location of at least one of said selected parameters and at least a portion of said explanatory information within said document* (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 47-67, col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67, fig.5).

Regarding independent claim 94, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of software code documentation, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters--* and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration parameters--* from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35). The documentation is gathered from comment tags found throughout computer code of the software code. In other words, the program extracts information, such as “Default\_Chapter: Drivers”—*explanatory information associated with said configuration parameters*—which explains or details the title of the chapter of the documentation

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(col.8, lines 60-62), and outputs it to a file along with—*merges--* functions, such as driver “con\_control\_ft”, and its parameters “TRUE”, and “FALSE” (col.7, lines 23-67, col.9, lines 28-38).

Further, Stern discloses the automatic organizing in a meaningful manner, and outputting of the software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as “Default\_Chapter: Drivers”—*explanatory information associated with said configuration parameters*—which explains or details the title of the chapter of the documentation (col.8, lines 60-62), and outputs it to a file along with—*merges--* functions, such as driver “con\_control\_ft”, and its parameters “TRUE”, and “FALSE” (col.7, lines 23-67, col.9, lines 28-38). Another example of the documentation is the text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameter and a value associated with said parameter*, in HTML or RTF format (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 14-20, col.7, lines 61-col.8, line 40, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67). The documentation having a meaningful format, such as RTF format, which describes how the function of the computer code is configured.

Furthermore, Stern fails to explicitly disclose *embedding into said configurable software system a software module*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have embedded into the configurable software system, the documentation software which extracts, and puts together the documentation, because Stern teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique for generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col. 2, lines 39-67). Thus, enabling the easy creation of meaningful documentation using the embedded documentation software.

Regarding claim 103, which depends on claim 55, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*explanatory information comprises text segments--* HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Regarding claim 105, which depends on claim 67, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*explanatory information comprises text segments--* HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

17. Claims 1-8, 13-17, 24-30, 32-41, 43, 48-55, 58, 65-66, 68-76, 78-82, 84-86, 89-93, 95-99, 101-104, and 106-113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danknick et al, hereinafter Danknick (Pat. # 5,901,286, 5/4/1999, filed on 11/15/1996), and further in view of Hayward et al, hereinafter Hayward (Pat. # 6,629,134, 9/30/2003, filed on 9/16/1999).

Regarding independent claim 1, Danknick discloses: *b) -d)--*“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values--* next to their respective explanatory text

fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *organizing said explanatory information in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: "Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154" (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values--* next to their respective explanatory text fragments (col.3, lines 25-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *automatically selecting said explanatory information by said computer, in accordance with said configuration parameters*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information

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about how to replace an ink cartridge. An application program senses by itself—*automatically*-- a peripheral condition, and based upon this condition retrieves the additional information, which consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Regarding claim 3, which depends on claim 2, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet-- *retrieving is performed using a collector computer program operating of a first computer...step of selecting is performed by a second computer* (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).

Regarding claim 4, which depends on claim 3, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". The settings are obtained

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from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over the Internet-- *interconnection of personal computers via....Internet* (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 4, lines 11-35, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).

Regarding claim 5, which depends on claim 3, Danknick discloses: “Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154.....” --....*the step of downloading said collector program onto said first computer.* (Col. 7, lines 14-30).

Regarding claim 6, which depends on claim 5, Danknick discloses: “After the web browser receives the executable code .....execution of the code is initiated.....”-- *automatically activating said collector after said step of downloading.* (Col. 2, lines 10-25).

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 5, Danknick discloses: “After the web browser receives the executable code .....execution of the code is initiated.....”-- ....*initiating said step of downloading from within a World Wide Web Browser* (Col. 2, lines 10-25).

Regarding claim 8, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: *a) -b)*--“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values associated therewith*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”. The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly

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disclose *outputting explanatory information corresponding to at least one of said configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information is consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Furthermore, Danknick discloses the construction of a web page with an index or *table of contents* in section 126, fig.7-- "the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140" (Col. 8, lines 17-25, Fig. 7, 10-12).

Regarding claim 13, which depends on claim 1, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....at least one selected from a group of a configurable software application, a computer operating system, an electronic messaging system, a database management system.....* However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because this

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would have enabled a user the retrieval of configuration from a software application for quickly determining its status.

Regarding claim 14, which depends on claim 1, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....said configurable system is selected from a group consisting of a Lotus Notes system, Novel Groupwise system, Microsoft Windows server..* However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because this would have enabled a user the retrieval of configuration from a Windows server for quickly determining its status.

Regarding claim 15, which depends on claim 1, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *, ....said configurable system is a SAP enterprise management system. .* However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because this would have enabled a user the retrieval of configuration from a software application, such as SAP for quickly determining its status.

Regarding claim 16, which depends on claim 1, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *said configurable system is a Microsoft*



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*Exchange messaging system...* However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have performed this step, because this would have enabled a user the retrieval of configuration from a software application, such as MS Exchange for quickly determining its status.

Regarding claim 17, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: "the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140....." --*two explanatory text segments are being grouped in accordance with interrelationship of their corresponding parameters* . (Col. 8, lines 17-25). Danknick discloses in the above quote, the display of related configuration information in a web page format.

Regarding claim 24, which depends on claim 19, Danknick discloses: "The browser....initiates a JAVA virtual machine in order to execute the JAVA applet....." (Col. 8, lines 43-67). Danknick discloses above, the retrieval of configuration information through an Internet browser--*activating said collector computer program from within a World Wide Web browser*.

Regarding claim 25, which depends on claim 23, Danknick discloses: "The browser....initiates a JAVA virtual machine in order to execute the JAVA applet....." (Col. 2, lines 40-60). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: ... *said collector is an ActiveX program*. However, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

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invention to had performed this step, because Danknick et al disclose above, the retrieval of configuration information through an Internet browser's platform independent software.

Regarding claim 26, which depends on claim 23, Danknick discloses: "The browser....initiates a JAVA virtual machine in order to execute the JAVA applet....." --  
*constructing said collector program using the Java programming language* (Col. 2, lines 40-60).

Regarding claim 27, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: "Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154....." (Col. 7, lines 14-30. Danknick teaches in the quote above, the retrieval of configuration information settings from and placing in fields next to explanatory text--*explanatory information is arranged in a template having placeholders embedded therein ...merging the values associated with said configuration variable* (col. 1, lines 58-67).

Regarding claim 28, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: "...hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas....." --*embedding one or more drawings within the document* (Col. 8, lines 14-25). Danknick teaches in the quote above, the retrieval of configuration information, including graphics—drawings--from computerized systems.

Regarding claim 29, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses the settings are obtained from a HTTP server—*database*-- by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet--

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*....storing said retrieved configuration parameters in a database ...retrieve one or more said sets in response to queries-- (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).*

Regarding claim 30, which depends on claim 29, Danknick discloses: “....hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas.....”  
*--embedding one or more drawings within the document (Col. 8, lines 14-25).* Danknick teaches in the quote above, the retrieval of configuration information, including graphics from computerized systems.

Regarding claim 32, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses the generation of an HTML file-- “....hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas.....” *--outputting documentation in a format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML, Postscript..... (Col. 8, lines 14-25).*

Regarding claim 33, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet--*....said computer is integrated into said configurable system-- (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).* In other words, the workstation is part of the LAN system.

Regarding claim 34, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet-- *retrieving is*

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*performed using a collector computer program operating of a first computer...step of selecting is performed by a second computer (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).*

Regarding claim 35, which depends on claim 2, Danknick discloses the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet-- *step of selecting is being performed by a software module integrated into said configurable system (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).*

Claim 36 is directed towards a system for implementing the system found in claim 4 (where the first computer having communication ability and organizing explanatory information and values is the workstation, and web page taught by Danknick in col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, fig. 7, 10), and is similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 37, which depends on claim 36, Danknick discloses: "Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154....." --.....*retrieving comprises a computer program executed on a second computer coupled to said configurable system....via a data network (col.4, lines 1-35, col. 7, lines 14-30).*

Claim 38 is directed towards a method for implementing the steps found in claim 4, and is similarly rejected.

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Regarding independent claim 39, Danknick discloses an SNMP client for the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation. The retrieval from the server and merging of the settings into the HTML documentation is done by the SNMP client—*collector computer program*-- that is automatically, not manually by a user's action-- “Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10).

In addition, Danknick discloses the creation of the documentation is done using an HTML page. The configuration settings retrieved by the SNMP client are inserted into the fields (a place where the settings are to be output-- *place holders*) next to the explanatory text fragments, of the HTML page--*i. a template having explanatory information and place holders*-- “Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (col. 1, lines 58-67, and col. 7, lines 14-30, fig. 7, 10).

Moreover, Danknick teaches that the configuration settings retrieved by the SNMP client are displayed, and inserted into the HTML page by a browser using an applet-- *a data parser*-- *ii. a data parser in communication with said collector program adapted to parse said configuration parameters into associated values and merge said values into said template* (col. 7, lines 14-30, fig. 7, 10). In other words the applet takes the settings retrieved by the SNMP client and inserts or merges the setting into the web page fields or template-- *associated values and merge said values into said template*.

Furthermore, Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *iii. output module adapted to organize said explanatory information...output said template with said merged values in a narrative*

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format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system to form the documentation or portion of said documentation, for said at least configurable system. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information is consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Regarding claim 40, which depends on claim 39, Danknick discloses the detection of a peripheral (such as a copier) condition for which service is required, such as when the number of pages—*configuration parameters*-- printed without performing maintenance on a copier exceeds a certain threshold. If the threshold is exceeded, then a status briefly describing the problem or error, such as "Lifter Motor Alarm Error", is displayed on a web page (col. 13, lines 15-45, and Fig. 19). In other words, if a diagnostic test determines that a condition value, number of pages, exceeds a predetermined threshold value or values—*acceptable values*-- up to the threshold value, then an error condition is generated with explanatory text describing the error or problem.

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Regarding claim 41, which depends on claim 39, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters* -- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”(col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.6-7, 10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *a database and a database management system for storing said configuration parameters, and wherein said database management system is adapted to respond to queries*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have included the database system for parameter storage, and retrieval, because Danknick teaches a database for storing printer data (col. 6, lines 40-47, fig.6). So, this would provide the benefit of organizing, and quickly retrieving the printer settings from the printer database using the SNMP client.

Regarding independent claim 43, Danknick teaches the downloading of an applet from a copier HTTP server to a browser-- *documentation generation program* used for generating an web page-- on a workstation 9, for the retrieval of current copier configuration settings and sending, and displaying them on the web page--*downloading a collector computer program to a first computer which is in communication with a configurable system; b) collecting configuration parameters.....c) transmitting said configuration parameters into a second computer having a documentation generation program* (col.4, lines 36-60, col. 7, lines 14-30, col.9, lines 47-52, fig.1, 3-4).

Furthermore, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters* -- next to their respective explanatory text

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fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". There is also a table of contents 121(fig.7), which displays a sequence of links to web pages containing the copier's configuration settings. By clicking a link located in a location in the table of contents, a web page is displayed containing explanatory information describing copier's settings. In other words, by selecting a first link "Status & Errors", a user would be selecting the relative location of the explanatory segments associated with the first link. The same applies for the second link "Features", "Administration", and so on (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.6-7, 10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *d) outputting using said documentation generation program, a document in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system: comprising explanatory information... said portion of said configuration parameters .....* However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information is consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.



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Regarding claim 48, which depends on claim 43, Danknick discloses the generation of an HTML file-- “....hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas.....” --*outputting documentation in a format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML, Postscript... ..* (Col. 8, lines 14-25).

Regarding independent claim 49, Danknick discloses: *a) -d)*--“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the peripherals—*configurable computerized systems*--configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”. The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.1, lines 16-47, col.4, lines 2-67, fig. 7,10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *outputting explanatory information in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user’s machine-- *explanatory information in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system* (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device’s specific

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problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Regarding claim 50, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: "Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154" (Col. 7, lines 14-30, and Fig. 10). Danknick teaches in the quote above, the retrieval of configuration settings, and matching the settings with explanatory text. All this is done automatically.

Regarding claim 51, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client-- *computer program operating on a first computer*-- over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67).

Regarding claim 52, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: "The browser....initiates a JAVA virtual machine in order to execute the JAVA applet...." (Col. 2, lines 40-60). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: ... *said collector is an ActiveX program*. However, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because Danknick et al disclose above, the retrieval of configuration information through an Internet browser's platform independent software.

Regarding claim 53, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: "The browser....initiates a JAVA virtual machine in order to execute the JAVA applet...." (Col. 2, lines 40-60).

Regarding claim 54, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67)--

*.....automatically retrieving said configuration parameters in accordance with a predetermined schedule.* In this quote, Danknick teaches the retrieval of the parameters or settings whenever a user chooses—*predetermined schedule*.

Regarding independent claim 55, Danknick discloses: *b) -d)*--“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the peripherals—*configurable computerized systems*--configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”. The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.1, lines col.3, lines 16-47, 5-2-67, fig. 7,10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *outputting explanatory information corresponding with at least one of said configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system to form the documentation or a portion thereof*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine--*explanatory information in a narrative*

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*format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system to form the documentation or a portion thereof* (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Furthermore, Danknick discloses the construction of a web page with an index for the web pages containing configuration settings or *table of contents*, in section 126, fig.7-- "the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140" (Col. 8, lines 17-25, Fig. 7, 10-12).

Claim 58 is directed towards a method for implementing the method found in claim 49, respectively, and is similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 65, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: the display of a an HTML file containing a copier configuration settings-- *outputting documentation in a format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML, Postscript.....* (col. 7, lines 12-30).

Regarding claim 66, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: "the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140....." --*two explanatory text segments are being grouped in accordance with interrelationship of their corresponding parameters* . (Col. 8, lines

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17-25). Danknick discloses in the above quote, the display of related configuration information in a web page format.

Regarding claim 68, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *a) providing a computer readable set of rules ....associated with one or more configuration parameters.....*—It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because Danknick discloses in the above quote, the display and retrieval of configuration requirements for a client.

Moreover, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67) --*b) comparing said retrieved configuration parameters against said set of rules*—In this quote, Danknick is teaching the setting of configuration parameters based on the retrieval of configuration requirements.

Regarding claim 69, which depends on claim 68, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....outputting an indication of error conditions if at least one of said configuration parameters violates one or more rule.* However, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had performed this step, because Danknick is teaching the setting of configuration parameters based

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on the retrieval of configuration requirements, so as to provide the benefit of informing an user when retrieval of settings has failed.

Regarding claim 70, which depends on claim 68, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). --...*indications of desired value..... outputting information conveying desired values*--. In this quote, Danknick is teaching the setting of configuration parameters based on the retrieval of configuration requirements.

Regarding claim 71, which depends on claim 70, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). ... *desired values are computably modifiable*—Danknick is teaching that the setting of configuration parameters are updated or changed based on the retrieval of configuration requirements.

Regarding claim 72, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: “the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140.....” ....*two explanatory text segments are being grouped in accordance with interrelationship of their corresponding parameters* . (Col. 8, lines 17-25). Danknick discloses in the above quote, the display of related configuration information in a web page format.

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Claims 73, 75-76 are directed towards a method for implementing the steps found in claims 28-30 respectively, and are likewise rejected.

Regarding claim 74, which depends on claim 49, Danknick discloses: the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67).

Claims 78-79 are directed towards a system for implementing the method found in claim 49, and are likewise rejected.

Regarding independent claim 80, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters next to their respective *explanatory text* fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation for peripherals, such as a copier—*configurable computerized systems*. The settings are obtained from a copier (11 )HTTP server by an SNMP client—*collector program module*—at computer workstation (9) over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67, col.4, lines 45-49, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.1-2, 7, 10).

In addition, Danknick discloses the creation of the documentation is done using an HTML page. The configuration settings retrieved by the SNMP client are inserted into the fields (a place where the settings are to be output-- *place holders*) next to the explanatory text fragments, of the HTML page--*i. a template having explanatory information and place holders*--“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (col. 1, lines 58-67, and col. 7, lines 14-30, fig. 7, 10).

Moreover, Danknick teaches that the configuration settings retrieved by the SNMP client are displayed, and inserted into the HTML page by a browser using an applet-- *a data parser-- ii. a data parser in communication with said collector program adapted to parse said configuration parameters into associated values and merge said values into said template* (col. 7, lines 14-30, fig. 7, 10). In other words the applet takes the settings retrieved by the SNMP client and inserts or merges the setting into the web page fields or template-- *associated values and merge said values into said template.*

Furthermore, Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *iii. output module adapted to organize said explanatory information...output said template with said merged values in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system to form the documentation or portion of said documentation, for said at least configurable system.* However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information is consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.



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Regarding claim 81, which depends on claim 80, Danknick discloses the detection of a peripheral (such as a copier) condition for which service is required, such as when the number of pages—*configuration parameters*-- printed without performing maintenance on a copier exceeds a certain threshold. If the threshold is exceeded, then a status briefly describing the problem or *error*, such as “Lifter Motor Alarm Error”, is displayed on a web page (col. 13, lines 15-45, and Fig. 19). In other words, if a diagnostic test determines that a condition value, number of pages, exceeds a predetermined threshold value or values—*acceptable values*-- up to the threshold value, then an error condition is generated with explanatory text describing the error or problem.

Regarding claim 82, which depends on claim 80, Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters* -- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”(col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.6-7, 10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *a database and a database management system for storing said configuration parameters, and wherein said database management system is adapted to respond to queries*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have included the database system for parameter storage, and retrieval, because Danknick teaches a database for storing printer data (col. 6, lines 40-47, fig.6). So, this would provide the benefit of organizing, and quickly retrieving the printer settings from the printer database using the SNMP client.

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Regarding claim 84, which depends on claim 80, Danknick teaches the web page and settings are obtained from a HTTP server—*www server*-- by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network, such as the www or Internet (col.3, lines 52-67, col.7, lines 12-30, col.8, line 1-6).

Regarding claim 85, which depends on claim 80, Danknick discloses the generation of an HTML file-- "...hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas....." --*outputting said documentation in at least one format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML, Postscript.....* (Col. 8, lines 14-25).

Regarding independent claim 86, Danknick discloses: *a) -d)*--"Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154" (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the peripherals—*configurable computerized systems*--configuration settings or parameters—*configuration parameters having values associated with them*-- next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.1, lines 16-47, col.4, lines 2-67, fig. 7,10). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *outputting in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system a document comprising i) said explanatory information*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such

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as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine-- *explanatory information in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system* (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

Furthermore, Danknick teaches a table of contents 121(fig.7), which displays a sequence of links to web pages containing the copier's configuration settings. By clicking a link located in a location in the table of contents, a web page is displayed containing explanatory information describing copier's settings. In other words, by selecting a first link "Status & Errors", a user would be selecting the relative location of the explanatory segments associated with the first link. The same applies for the second link "Features", "Administration", and so on (col.3, lines 52-67, col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.6-7, 10).

Regarding claim 89, which depends on claim 86, Danknick teaches the web page and settings are obtained from a HTTP server—*www server*-- by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network, such as the www or Internet (col.3, lines 52-67, col.7, lines 12-30, col.8, line 1-6).

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Regarding claim 90, which depends on claim 86, Danknick discloses the generation of an HTML file-- "...hypertext tags provide page formatting information to the browser which defines text areas, graphics areas....." --*outputting said documentation in at least one format compatible with a format selected from the group consisting of HTML, Postscript.....* (Col. 8, lines 14-25).

Regarding independent claim 91, Danknick discloses: *a) - b)*--"Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154" (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick et al teach the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration parameters next to their respective explanatory text fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—"SNMP client and browser". Danknick fails to explicitly disclose *outputting explanatory information in a narrative format descriptive of the configuration of the configurable system*. However, Hayward teaches the presentation of additional information or instructions to help a user diagnose, and solve a device problem, such as the presentation of additional information about how to replace an ink cartridge. The additional information is consists of text, photographs, audio, and video, showing a user how to replace a magenta ink cartridge in the user's machine (col.6, lines 47-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Danknick, and Hayward, because Hayward teaches the retrieval of specific information addressing a device's specific problem (col. 4, lines 56-67). This provides the benefit of features, which provide a user with quick and specific information, which saves time necessary in finding the information.

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Regarding claim 92, which depends on claim 91, Danknick discloses: *...said software module is embedded within said configurable system--*“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154.....The settings are obtained by an SNMP client within the workstation....” (Col. 7, lines 14-30). The “SNMP client and browser” components embedded into the computer system taught by Danknick.

Regarding claim 93, which depends on claim 91, Danknick discloses: *said software module is constructed to be integrated into said configurable system--*“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154.....The settings are obtained by an SNMP client within the workstation....” (Col. 7, lines 14-30). The “SNMP client and browser” are installable components into the computer system taught by Danknick.

Regarding independent claim 95, Danknick teaches the retrieval of configuration information from computerized systems, and the querying and control of peripheral devices (col. 1, lines 58-67, col. 7, lines 14-30).

Limitations under item c) of the claim are directed towards a computer program product on a computer-readable media for storing the steps found in claim 91, and are similarly rejected.

Claims 96-97 are directed towards a computer program product on a computer-readable media for storing the system found in claims 36, and 78 respectively, and are similarly rejected.

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Regarding claim 98, which depends on claim 1, Danknick discloses: *b) -d)*--“Current configuration settings are displayed in such fields such as fields 152, 154” (Col. 7, lines 14-30, Fig.7, 10). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization of the configuration settings or parameters next to their respective *explanatory text* fragments, and formatting of configurable parameters into HTML documentation—“SNMP client and browser”. The settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation over a LAN or Intranet (col.3, lines 52-67).

Regarding claim 99, which depends on claim 8, Danknick discloses: “the browser is instructed .....to display a second HTML file 140.....” --*two explanatory text segments are being grouped in accordance with interrelationship of their corresponding parameters* . (Col. 8, lines 17-25). Danknick discloses in the above quote, the display of related configuration information in a web page format.

Claims 101-104, 106-108 are directed towards a method for implementing the steps found in claim 98, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Claims 109-113 are directed towards a system for implementing the method found in claim 98, and is similarly rejected.

18. Claims 45-47, 56-57, 61-64, and 88 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danknick, in view of Hayward, and further in view of Lee (Pat. # 6,542,897, 4/1/2003, filed on 5/15/1998).

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Regarding claim 45, which depends on claim 43, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: ....*at least one selected from a group of a configurable software application, a computer operating system, an electronic messaging system, a database management system*..... However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 46, which depends on claim 43, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: , ....*said configurable system is a SAP enterprise management system*. However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service

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while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing SAP software systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 47, which depends on claim 43, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *said configurable system is a Microsoft Exchange messaging system...* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing software systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 56, which depends on claim 55, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....at least one selected from a group of a configurable software application, a computer operating system, an electronic messaging system, a database management system.....* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of



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providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 57, which depends on claim 55, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: ....*said configurable system is at least one selected from a group consisting of a Lotus Notes system, Novel Groupwise system, Microsoft Windows server..* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 61, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: ....*at least one selected from a group of a configurable software application, a computer operating system, an electronic messaging system, a database management system.....* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines

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23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 62, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....said configurable system is selected from a group consisting of a Lotus Notes system, Novel Groupwise system, Microsoft Windows server..* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 63, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: , *....said configurable system is a SAP enterprise management system.* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a

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product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing SAP software systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 64, which depends on claim 49, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *said configurable system is a Microsoft Exchange messaging system...* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing software systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

Regarding claim 88, which depends on claim 86, Danknick teaches the settings are obtained from a HTTP server by a computer workstation's SNMP client over a network (col.3, lines 52-67). Danknick fails to explicitly disclose: *....said configurable system is selected from a group consisting of a configurable software application, a computer operating system, an*

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*electronic messaging system, a database management system.....* However, Lee teaches providing support information for a product, such as computer systems, software, and consumer electronic devices (col.1, lines 23-27, col.2, lines 30-45). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Danknick, and Lee, because Lee teaches the benefit of providing a customer product support information over the Internet to enhance the quality of product service while saving after-service costs (col.2, lines 17-37). This would provide the benefit of diagnosing computer systems' problems in a cost effective manner.

19. Claims 59 and 104 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern, and further in view of Dunphy et al (Pat. # 5,638,509, 6/10/1997, filed on 6/13/1996).

Regarding independent claim 59, Stern discloses the retrieval or transfer of data, such as computer program codes-- *configurable systems*-- from a database to a computer system "530". The database is shared among several computer systems (col.1, lines 19-61, col.12, lines 1-8, 10-22, 38-50, and fig.8). Stern fails to explicitly disclose *coupling a computer with at least a portion of a configurable system via an Intranet*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have coupled the computer to the configurable system(s) over an Intranet, because Stern teaches the advantage of coupling computer 530 to a network, such as an Intranet, and Stern also teaches the advantage of an easy-to-use technique for generating meaningful documentation for any programming environment chosen by a user, where the documentation allows the user to sufficiently describe the code (col.

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2, lines 39-67). Thus, enabling the easy creation of meaningful documentation across networks, such as an Intranet.

Moreover, Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of a software code documentation computer output file, such as documentation for computer code functions—*configuration parameters*-- and their arguments (NULL, TRUE, FALSE, etc.)—*configuration values*-- from software product code files—*configurable system*—(where a software product is a configurable system) (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.7, lines 40-67, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35).

Additionally, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*configuration parameters and a value associated with said parameter, in a narrative format descriptive of the configurable system*, in HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).

Furthermore, Stern discloses the organizing of the extracted software documentation using several invocation flags (col.2, lines 39-64, col.6, lines 47-67, col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 40, col.11, lines 43-67, fig.5). Stern fails to explicitly disclose: *d) maintaining an activity log detailing operations of said steps of retrieving and outputting*. However, Dunphy et al disclose: “present invention which maintains an index of all data file activity on a computer system” (Col. 1, lines 54-67). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to had combined the teachings of Stern and Dunphy et al, because Dunphy et al teach: “...to enable a user to recreate the state of the computer system at any selected point in time....”

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(Col. 1, lines 56-67), so as to enable a programmer to recreate a previous document creation session when a crash has taken place.

Regarding claim 104, which depends on claim 59, Stern discloses the automatic outputting of the extracted software code documentation, in the form of text objects, such as text “A pointer to a buffer containing input arguments. May be NULL”—*explanatory information comprises text segments-- HTML or RTF format (col.6, lines 14-20, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35, col.11, lines 43-67).*

***Allowable Subject Matter***

20. Claims 31, 42, 44, 83, 77, and 87 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Stern discloses the automatic extraction, and creation of software code documentation using textual explanations, which describe software functions, and their parameters, embedded within the code (col.1, lines 7-47, col.2, lines 51-64, col.5, lines 35-57, col.6, lines 1-45, col.9, lines 19-38, and col. 10, lines 26-35). Danknick teaches the retrieval, merging, organization, and display of the configuration settings or parameters next to their respective explanatory text fragments (col.3, lines 52-67). Neither Stern, nor Danknick teach or suggest the storage of first, and second configuration parameters, and outputting the differences between these two sets of configuration parameters. There's no output of the differences between the parameters extracted and displayed by Stern, and Danknick.

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***Response to Arguments***

21. A new search has been conducted. As a result, relevant prior art references—Stern, Hayward, and Lee-- which were published after 1/03 (after the date last rejections were made on 12/4/03), and which were not available at the time when the last rejections were made, have been found and therefore applied to the claims above.

Applicant submits that the examiner has failed to satisfy the serious burden test of restriction requirement, because the same 113 claims have been searched 3 times (p.2,L.15-24). The examiner is including a rejection of all the claims above in light of the new rejections, and applicant's arguments.

***Conclusion***

I. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Dyne et al. (Pat. # 6,272,508).

II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (703) 306-5543. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this Action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Or faxed to:

- (703) 703-872-9306, (for all Formal communications intended for entry)

**Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).**

CBP

4/30/04

  
JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER